
Japan's Prime Minister-elect Yukio Hatoyama has said his country will aim for 25 percent cuts in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2020. The goal is more ambitious than targets set earlier. From Tokyo our correspondent Roland Buerk reports.

Yukio Hatoyama said Japan would **urge** countries around the world **to set aggressive goals on climate change**. He said Japan would aim to cut its own **emissions** by 25 percent from 1990 levels by 2020, significantly more than the 8 percent **pledged** by the outgoing Government. It's likely **to face opposition** from industry.

The reductions are to be achieved by introducing emissions trading, **renovating** houses, as well as **subsidising solar panels** and **low-energy appliances** and cars.

After leading his Democratic Party to **a landslide victory** in a general election, Mr Hatoyama is due to be formally confirmed as Japan's Prime Minister by Parliament next week.

Japan is keen to play a leading role at United Nations' **backed** talks on climate change in Copenhagen in December. Countries will try to work out a new global agreement to reduce emissions to follow the Kyoto Protocol.

Roland Buerk, BBC News, Tokyo

Vocabulary and definitions

urge	strongly encourage, call for
to set aggressive goals on climate change	to be more assertive, ambitious and determined in their fight against climate change
emissions	here, when harmful gases are released/sent out
pledged	promised
to face opposition	to have to deal with disagreement and resistance
renovating	here, modernising in such a way as to make them more environmentally friendly
subsidising solar panels	partly paying for the installation of special batteries that can convert sunlight into usable energy
low-energy appliances	devices that can work using relatively little energy
a landslide victory	when a person or a political party wins an election with a big majority
backed	organised and supported

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